

NEW HAMPTON



MASTER PLAN

Update 2002

Chapter II. Population
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Town of New Hampton Master Plan 2002

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This update to the Town of New Hampton,
New Hampshire Master Plan is

DEDICATED TO THE TOWNSPEOPLE

OF

NEW HAMPTON.

It was their overwhelming response to the questionnaire sent out by the Update Committee that resulted in unquestionably clear direction in which to plan for the future.

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Introduction and Recommendations

New Hampton is set in the geographic center of the state and lies roughly halfway between Newfound Lake and Lake Winnepesaukee, between the White Mountain National Forest and the state capitol in Concord. Interstate 93 and Routes 104 and 132 converge at the town's center.

As travel and tourism continue to be mainstays of the New Hampshire economy, New Hampton by virtue of its very location must be prepared to accommodate not only the growth of its own population, but that of surrounding communities and, indeed, the state as a whole. No town exists in a void, and, particularly since September 11th, 2001, many health and safety issues for New Hampton citizens must be considered in concert with other towns, the region and the state. Motorcycle Week in Laconia, for example, drew a record crowd of 135,000 in 2001. Due to our proximity and location on the Interstate, New Hampton's police, fire and rescue personnel are forced to deal with additional traffic and safety challenges as the popularity of just that one event grows.

Indicative of that reality, communication with other town governments, regionally and statewide, is an important tool New Hampton regularly employs to the benefit of its citizens. The number of state and regional organizations to which New Hampton has affiliated itself is long. New Hampton is a regular member of the Lakes Region Planning Commission and the New Hampshire Municipal Association to name two. The departments which serve its residents maintain memberships in like manner. Some examples include the NH Preservation Alliance, NH Association of Conservation Commissions, NH Ambulance Association, National Fire Protection Association, NH State Firemen's Association, the Belknap County Chiefs of Police, Northern New England Police Association, NH Association of Police Chiefs, the NH Finance Officers Association, NH Association of Assessing Officials, NH City and Town Clerks Association, the NH Tax Collectors' Association and others. Additionally, volunteer civil servants who serve the town's various boards often attend regional and state level conferences and meetings with those expenses paid by the town budget.

The Master Plan is a tool to be used by the Planning Board and the Board of Selectmen to guide growth at a rate that is consistent with the town's ability to absorb it, while preserving the existing rural and small town character. The Master Plan furthers this goal through natural resource protection, historic and agricultural preservation, and

protection of the town's aesthetic values, which will assure a pleasant, attractive, and desirable community in which to live and play. The Business and Industry Association of NH, in 1996, after extensive research, identified the *Quality of Life in New Hampshire* as the state's most important economic asset. As a result New Hampshire is the fastest growing state in New England. It is estimated that the population of New Hampshire will grow from 1.2 million in 2001 to 1.5 million in 2020. That is an increase of 25% in just 19 years. New Hampshire is losing 20,000 acres of farm and forestland each year to development. New Hampton is going to see its fair share of that growth and loss of farm and forest. It is not a question of if we are going to see it; it is more a question of how we are going to handle it.

This update to the 1985 New Hampton Master Plan attempts to set down as clearly and practically as possible the best and most appropriate future development of the town, and makes recommendations to aid the boards in designing ordinances that result in preserving and enhancing the unique quality of life and culture that reside in New Hampton. Additionally, it attempts to guide the Board of Selectman, the Planning Board, and other Town officials in the performance of their duties in a manner that advances the principals of smart growth, sound planning, and wise resource protection.

The revised Master Plan contains five major sections. They are:

- Introduction and Recommendations
- Visioning
- Population
- Land Use
- Historical

Each section is covered in depth and highlights of each are presented here in summary.

Visioning- The Visioning Subcommittee sent out 1,100 questionnaires to residents and voters of New Hampton of which 416 responses were returned for tabulation and analysis. This is a 38% return rate. The chairperson of the Visioning Committee wrote in her summary, " A survey with this overwhelming response is not only a representative reflection of the values and attitudes of the community, but with such a high percentage of respondents can be construed literally as a *mandate* from the community regarding future direction of their town".

Population- This chapter examines five facets of population change in New Hampton: historical population trends, migration pattern,

population demographic changes and seasonal population, and economic patterns.

Land Use- A very important chapter that inventories current land utilization; then based on the visioning results lays out where and how New Hampton should grow.

Historical- Historical interpretation can be used as a mirror to the future. A forward look without a look at the past is an incomplete process that will result in a less than desirable product.

Recommendations:

1. **MIXED-USE ZONING DISTRICT:** After joint meetings of the Master Plan Update Committee and the Sprawl Committee that were appointed by the Planning Board, it is the recommendation of both committees that a mixed-use zoning district be created in the area of Route 104/132, Post Office, Drake Road and Town House Road. The mixed-use area will allow for increased density and would foster the creation of a Town Center Area with multi-family housing, single-family housing, and commercial establishments. It would allow for walkways to accommodate pedestrian traffic.
2. **MUNICIPAL SEWERAGE SYSTEM:** The concept of a mixed-use district is not currently feasible, due to septic requirements and the lack of any municipal sewerage system. Discussions of a municipal sewerage system in the past have centered on laying a line to Meredith, which is cost prohibitive, or tapping into the New Hampton Village District Sewage System. The Village District System is currently operating at peak capacity and would not be able to support an additional district. Therefore it is incumbent on the Town to investigate some of the state-of-the-art innovative systems that have become available in the past 5 to 10 years. It is recommended that a committee be appointed to research the possibilities and cost of these newer technology systems and determine their applicability to New Hampton for a mixed-use zoning district.
3. **IMPACT FEE ORDINANCE :** Any development in New Hampton is going to have an impact on town services. In order for the Town to recoup some of the costs of these impacts, it is recommended that the Town appoint a committee to create an Impact Fee Provision in the town's Zoning Ordinances as currently allowed by state statute. While the costs of correcting existing deficiencies cannot be charged to new development, the costs associated or

attributable to that growth, as it relates to capital facilities consumption or expansion needed to serve that growth, can be charged.

4. **TRANSFER OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS**: Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) is a zoning technique that allows local communities to preserve environmentally sensitive areas, open space, farmland, historic landmarks, or other community assets without using public funds. Using TDRs, landowners in designated preservation areas are given the option of preserving their property by selling their development rights. These transferable rights are purchased (usually by developers) to increase the amount of development allowed in designated areas suitable for higher growth. TDR programs are designed to use market forces to transfer development from one area to another. In effect, TDR programs promote open space or cluster development across parcels. Like open space development, the objective of a TDR program is to preserve open space land without imposing a significant financial loss on the private landowner. The ability to sell TDRs can compensate a landowner for changes to zoning or other restrictions on development that reduce the potential economic value of their property. It is recommended that the Planning Board appoint a committee to investigate TDRs and propose possible applications in New Hampton.

5. **LOCAL ACCESS MANAGEMENT**: The townspeople of New Hampton expressed their concern about the effects of development on community character, quality of life, and the rural atmosphere. Conventional regulatory practices have an undesired effect on these desirable characteristics. The clearest evidence of this trend is strip zoning along major arterials. This form of development increases the numbers of curb cuts, slows the movement on the arterial, can contribute to accidents along the arterial, and is rarely designed for pedestrian use. No state agency has the authority to prevent strip development, or to prevent access to lands abutting State highways. The State of NH Department of Transportation has jurisdiction over access to State highways, but it is limited. Absent State regulation of strip development, only local government can control development along State highways. Local Access Management means local oversight of all means of vehicular access onto public highways. This means appropriately spacing or limiting the number of driveways while also, and as a result, removing the slower turning vehicles as efficiently as possible. It is recommended that the Town adopt Access Management Tools into the existing Zoning Ordinances, Site Plan Review, and Subdivision Regulations.

6. **PRESERVATION OF HISTORICAL ASSETS:** The visual evidence of New Hampton's early character and appearance contributes greatly to the town's current appeal and character, adding personality and a real sense of place. An ongoing, active preservation effort demonstrates that the town has a sense of caring and pride. It is recommended that the Town actively support the preservation of historic assets in New Hampton. This should include the establishment of a Historic District in the vicinity of the Old Institution, financial support in the preservation of historic buildings like the Daniel Smith Tavern, the Old Institution Schoolhouse, the Adventist Christian Church, aka New Hampton Historical Society Headquarters, and the Dana Hill Meeting House. Additional support should be provided to repair and maintain old burial grounds and headstones.

7. **COMMUNITY FACILITIES:** During the research by the Space Needs Committee for their December 1998 report, they perceived a "general sense among the Selectmen, departments and committees of the town that the current facilities do not provide for the delivery of appropriate town services in a manner deserved by the property owners, residents and businesses of New Hampton". The Space Needs Committee issued their report in December 1998 with specific recommendations for addressing the deficiencies. It is recommended the Board of Selectmen continue their efforts to improve the town facilities as noted in the report.

8. **UPDATING THE MASTER PLAN:** It has become very apparent during the process of updating the New Hampton Master Plan that it would be best to update in a time frame that does not exceed 2 or 3 years. House Bill 650-FN, an act relative to Master Plans, is before the 2002 legislature for a vote. If this House Bill should become law, it recommends that revisions to the plan be made every 5 to 10 years. It is recommended that in order to meet the intent of the pending House Bill and to best reflect the needs and desires of the townspeople of New Hampton, the Master Plan be updated by section, versus the entire plan, and a section be updated every two years. This will result in the Master Plan's being updated in its entirety every 8 years.

Chapter I. Visioning

Town of New Hampton
New Hampton Master Plan Update Committee
Report of the Visioning Sub-Committee

1. Introduction

In the fall of 1996, the New Hampton Planning Board recognized the need to update the town's Master Plan. A Community Profile Steering Committee was formed with the assistance of the Belknap County UNH Cooperative Extension. On November 1 & 2, 1996, the Community Profile meeting was held, during which comments were elicited from 105 participants on the current status and a future vision of the town of New Hampton. In the action plans created at that event, it was recommended that the New Hampton Master Plan be updated. A steering committee was formed to organize the first meeting of the Master Plan Update Committee. The first organizational meeting was held on June 12, 1997 and four sub-committees were formed. Among them was the Community Visioning Committee, which was charged with completing a comprehensive assessment of the community vision for the town of New Hampton for the next ten-year period.

1.1 Community Opinion Survey

The Community Visioning Committee began work on their charge in the fall of 1997. They developed the "Town of New Hampton Community Opinion Survey" for the purpose of better understanding the community's opinion regarding:

- town services and facilities
- housing
- preservation of historical aspects
- recreational opportunities
- expansion of business and industry
- expansion of municipal facilities
- school facilities

One question requesting demographic information on age, education, residential status and income level was included to help the committee get a current view of the make up of the town. This information was sought to determine if there were significant differences in a future vision of the community based on these factors.

Respondents were also asked to identify the best thing about living or owning property in New Hampton. They were asked to indicate the one thing they most wanted to preserve about the town, and the one most important change needed to improve New Hampton. A final question requested that respondents indicate contributions they would be willing to make to help promote the future of New Hampton as they envision it.

In February 1998, 1,100 surveys were mailed to all property owners and registered voters. Four hundred and sixteen (416) surveys, or 38%, were returned. This number may actually represent more than 416 citizens as some surveys returned represented the opinion of more than one person in a household. The data was processed and tabulated by The Lakes Region Planning Commission with input from the New Hampton Master Plan Update Committee.

1.2 Demographic Analysis

1.2.1 Age

Ninety-seven percent of the 416 respondents completed the demographic question on age. Of those, a mere 6 respondents indicated they were under 25, while only 50 indicated they were over 70 years of age. To simplify our reporting, we combined the under-25 group with the 26-40 year olds, and added the over-70 group to the 56-69 year old group. This resulted in three age groups for analysis of responses: forty and younger (22%), forty-one to fifty-five (37%), and fifty-six and older (41%).

1.2.2 Education

Three hundred and eighty-nine respondents indicated their educational status on the survey. Only 10 indicated they had less than a high school education. There was some concern that 104 respondents said they had attended graduate school. It was determined that some may have interpreted the category "Graduate School" as having graduated from school. This category was subsequently not used in the analysis.

Of the 285 remaining respondents, 39% indicated a high school education or less, 29% completed 2 years of college, and 32% completed 4 years of college.

1.2.3 Income

Just 29 respondents indicated an income of less than \$15,000, so were included in the category of \$15,000-\$30,000. Only 54 indicated their income was over \$75,000, so they were grouped with those in the \$50,000-\$75,000 income category, creating only two factors for income analysis.

1.2.4 Resident Status

Homeowners constituted 62% of the respondents who completed this question. As there were no other categories with significant percentages of representation, this factor was not used in our analysis of responses to the other questions.

1.3 Community View of Town Services and Facilities

Those who work for the community are much appreciated. New Hampton services received high marks from respondents. When asked to evaluate their satisfaction with town services, the community gave Police the highest number of satisfactory responses with 90%. Town Offices and Fire Department followed closely on their heels with 89% and 85% respectively. Respondents were also pleased with Library (83%) and Trash/Recycling (82%). Emergency/Rescue was given a 70% satisfactory rating, and Roads received 69%.

Forty-four percent thought Health Services were satisfactory, while 59% gave satisfactory ratings to Cemetery Service. Lowest was Recreation Area Services, receiving only a 35% satisfactory rating. There was disparity between ratings for Recreation Area Services by age and income categories. Those respondents who were younger and had incomes of less than \$30,000 were less likely to find Recreation Area Service and facilities satisfactory than were older respondents with higher incomes.

Facilities rated less well overall than town services. The Trash/Recycling facility and the Library were both given high ratings (86% and 84%), and Town Offices and Fire Department facilities each received 75% satisfactory. Health Service facilities (35%) and Recreation Area facilities (33%) proved least satisfactory.

1.4 Residential Considerations

Four questions on the survey focused on housing issues. Most were undecided or thought there was adequate affordable housing, rental

units, and low income/subsidized housing. When senior housing was addressed, the over-56 group said it was inadequate at nearly twice the rate of the under-40 group (46% vs.24%). However, an almost equal group of over-56ers (41%) was undecided.

Adding more large multi-family dwellings with 5-8 units or with 9 or more units received a strong “thumbs down” from 87% of respondents. New condos weren’t welcomed either (70% said “No”), and the possible addition of new mobile home parks was very (87%) unpopular.

1.5 Preserving Our Roots

If we’re not ready to add a lot of new construction, we certainly do like what we have and are ready to preserve the historic aspects of our community. Slightly more than half of respondents (59%) wanted to establish historic districts. Even more popular was the suggestion of adding to the inventory of historic buildings (64%). But we are most enthused about identifying areas of significant historic interest (81%) and establishing consistent identifiers/markers for those historical sites (83%).

1.6 Conservation

We’re not only concerned with preservation of our man-made structures. In a question about town involvement in preservation of other resources, there was overwhelming support for conservation of areas of scenic or natural beauty (85%), the Pemigewasset River (84%), important wildlife habitats (83%), shorelines (80%), followed by historic buildings, wetlands, and working farms and farmlands (all above 65%).

1.7 Recreational Facilities

When work is over and it’s time to play, New Hampton residents have strong opinions about recreational opportunities that should be available. Outdoor eating and the opportunity to walk off the calories topped the list with 76% of respondents choosing picnic areas and hiking trails as the most wanted facilities to be added or improved in the town. Seventy-five percent want a nice town beach and 71% want cross-country ski trails marked for winter recreation. Biking trails and boat access to the river were also strong on the “wish list” with 69% support. There were activities that a significant majority was strongly

against having in the town: 65% opposed a shooting range, 59% were opposed to downhill skiing, and 57% do not want hunting areas in the town.

1.8 Commercial Opportunities

The deals will be made and the goods sold elsewhere according to the residents who answered the question about business and industrial opportunities in town. Bars and taverns, fast food stores, hotels and motels, and convenience stores received little support. However, 89% of respondents thought locating bed-and-breakfasts in town was a good thing. Small inns, banks, and to a lesser degree (69%) restaurants, received favorable review.

There was disagreement about locating supermarkets in New Hampton among differing age groups and respondents with different educational levels. The over-56 year olds were much more supportive of supermarkets (46%), while the under-40 crowd was less likely (39%) to want supermarkets in New Hampton. Those with a 4 year college education did not favor locating supermarkets in town (61% said "No"). But 50% of the group with high school or less voted in favor of supermarkets being located in New Hampton. Income did not seem to influence support of supermarkets.

1.9 Business Locations

New Hampton residents were not in favor of shopping centers (59% opposed). Just over half were opposed to industrial complexes (51%). However, it was evident that home occupations were acceptable (77% yes). Professional office parks had moderate support (55%), and small manufacturing businesses were acceptable to 52% of respondents.

Though we usually think of younger people as being more open to change and development, a larger percent of the under-40 group voted against development of industrial complexes and manufacturing businesses than did their elders in the 41-55 and over-56 groups. If any more businesses are added, however, 82% of the total surveyed population thought landscaped "buffer zones" should be developed around all businesses and 73% supported architectural control of new commercial buildings. Development of home occupations was supported by 77% of respondents. There was an even split between those who support wastewater treatment and those who oppose it, but 21% checked undecided.

1.10 New Development and Expansion of Municipal Facilities

Respondents had strong feelings about where to locate any new developments or expansion of municipal facilities. NH 104 from I-93 to Meredith, and NH 132 toward Ashland, are definitely where folks want to see any new businesses or facilities expansions. There was very little support for any additions in New Hampton Village, on Town House Road, or on NH 132 toward Sanbornton.

1.11 School Facilities Improvement

It was hoped there would be a strong message to send to the school administrative unit about New Hampton's public school, and when it comes to addressing the current building status, 58% said to build an addition to the existing school. Building a new school was almost as unpopular (18%) as using temporary buildings (15%). The over-56 crowd was a little less supportive than either of the other age groups about establishing an 8th grade elementary school, but there was not a majority vote for that suggestion from any group.

1.12 The Best Thing about New Hampton

The question asking the best thing about living in New Hampton elicited quite a diversity of values and degrees of satisfaction about life in this community. They ranged from the comment of one disgruntled respondent who wrote: "There's nothing good about it..." to several obviously happily-transplanted respondents who said, "It's not...Bristol...Manchester...Plymouth...Tilton," to someone who found "cute cops" to be one of our greatest natural resources! A vast majority mentioned its peaceful, charming, rural atmosphere with easy access to services via I-93, the friendliness of neighbors, the natural beauty, the privacy and a quiet, simple, country way of life.

When asked what ONE important change needs to happen to improve the town, we saw the same broad range of values. Some people wanted more services, more programs, more businesses, more activities, and better schools, while many others wanted to limit growth of nearly every aspect of New Hampton, including government, taxes, mobile home parks and commercial development. There were many requests for improving, resurfacing and servicing town roads, including secondary and private roads.

In reply to the question on the ONE most important thing to preserve

about New Hampton, its historic, rural character and natural beauty were by far the most frequently identified elements, followed closely by its friendly, neighbor-helping-neighbor atmosphere.

1.13 In Summary...

The response rate for most surveys is less than 10%. Completed New Hampton Community Opinion Surveys were submitted by more than a third of our community. A survey with this overwhelming response is not only a representative reflection of the values and attitudes of the community, but, with such a high percentage of respondents, can be construed literally as a *mandate* from the community regarding the future direction of their town. Through the New Hampton Community Opinion Survey, we have very clearly identified our desire to better maintain and treasure the old, rural, and natural aspects of New Hampton. At the same time, we have identified the fact that we do want growth, but it must be specific, conservative, and controlled. If all residents support these goals through involvement in town government, financial efforts, and participation in community projects, we all will be able to continue to enjoy New Hampton, secure in the knowledge that we are honoring the past while moving cautiously toward the future, and preserving the best of yesterday while welcoming the promise of tomorrow.

1.14 Survey Analysis

1.14.1 Demographics

Of the 416 completed surveys, the following respondents completed the demographic questions regarding age, education and income:

<u>Response Category</u>	<u>Number of Responses</u>	<u>% of Total Responses</u>
Age	403	97%
Education	389	94% (Discussion below)
Income	348	84%

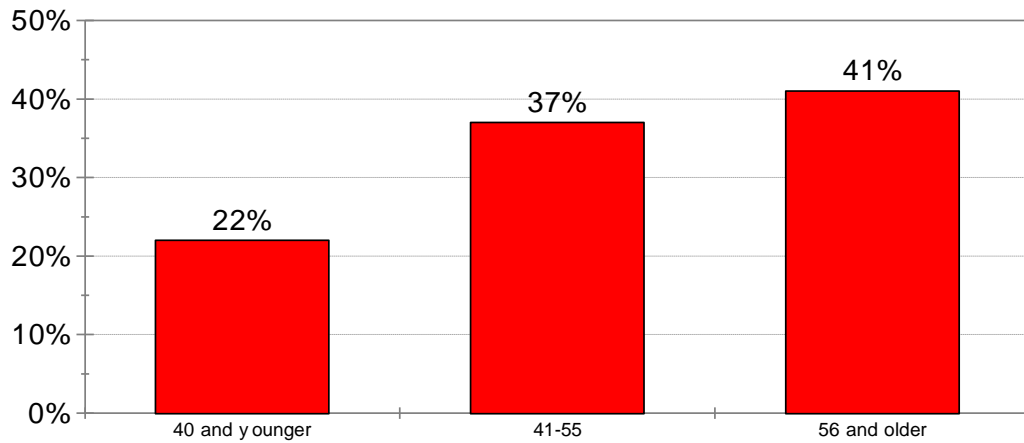
1.14.2 Age

The distribution of the answers for each of these variables required recording the responses for the analysis. (See Tabulations for the complete number of responses by category.) For example, there were only six (6) respondents who said they were less than 25 years old. Similarly, there were only fifty (50) respondents who said they were

over 70 years old. The under 25 year old respondents were combined with the 26-40 years old respondents. The over 70 year-old respondents were combined with the 56-69 year old respondents.

Age	Number of Responses	Percent of Responses
40 and younger	88	22%
41-55	150	37%
56 and older	165	41%
Total	403	100%

Age of Respondents

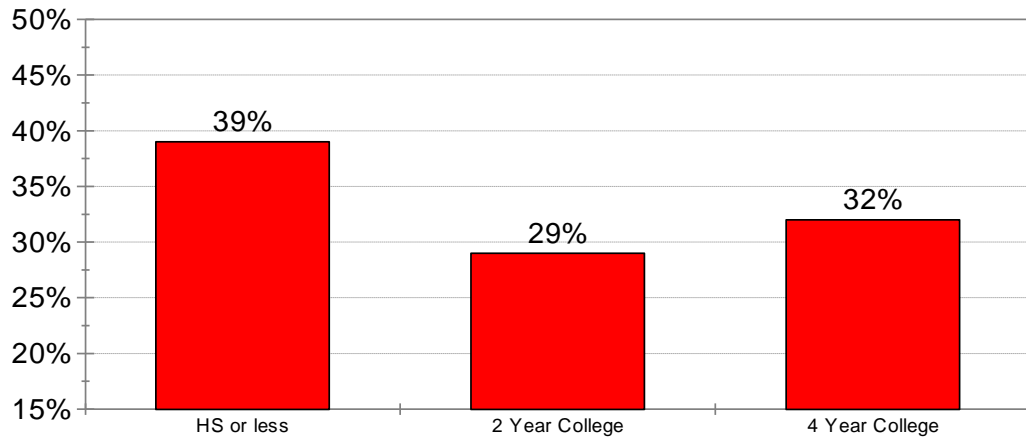


1.14.3 Education

There were also only ten (10) respondents who said they had less than a high school education. It was also noted that the possible response “Graduate School” may have been interpreted as having graduated from school and was therefore not included as a category in the analysis. One hundred and four (104) or 26% of the respondents said they had attended graduate school.

Education	Number of Responses	Percent of Responses
High School or Less	110	39%
2 Year College	83	29%
4 Year College	92	32%
Total	285	100%

Education of Respondents

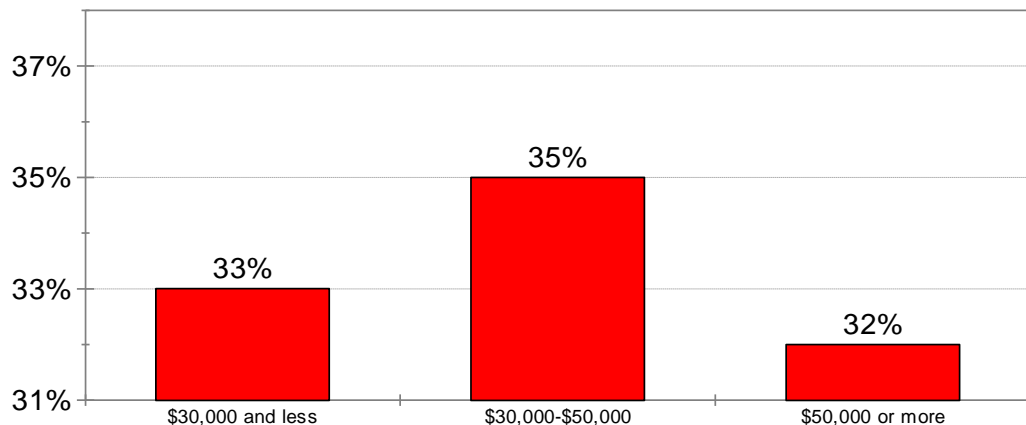


1.14.4 Income

Finally, twenty-nine (29) respondents indicated that their income was less than \$15,000 and fifty-four (54) indicated that their income was over \$75,000. The less than \$15,000 income respondents were added to the \$15,000-\$30,000 income category. Similarly, the over \$75,000 were added to the \$50,000-\$75,000 category.

<u>Income</u>	<u>Number of Responses</u>	<u>Percent of Responses</u>
\$30,000 and Less	117	33%
\$30,000-\$50,000	122	35%
\$50,000 and More	109	32%
Total	348	100%

Income of Respondents



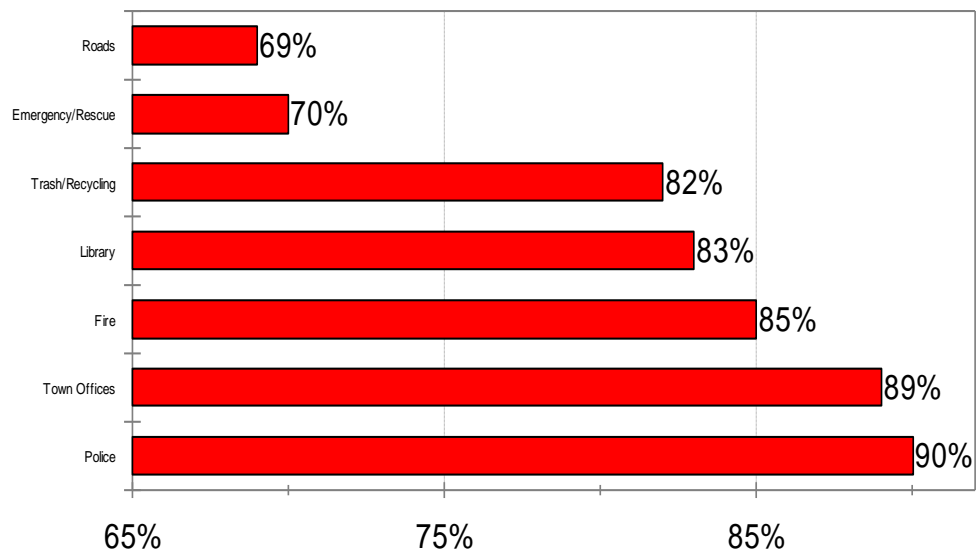
1.15 Town Services and Facilities

- **There are high levels of satisfaction with town services and facilities.**

The Police (90%), Town Offices (89%), Fire (85%), Library (83%), Trash/Recycling (82%), Emergency/Rescue (70%) and Road (69%) services had the highest number of satisfactory responses.

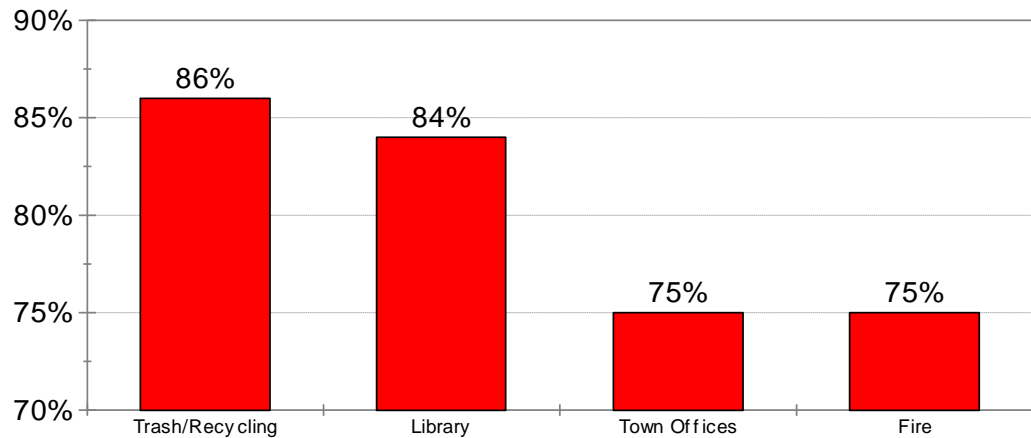
The town facilities that received the highest number of satisfactory responses were Trash/Recycling (86%), Library (84%), Town Offices (75%) and Fire (75%).

Satisfaction with Services



Health Services (44%) and Facilities (35%) had lower satisfactory responses, but also had high number of undecided responses. Forty-three (43%) percent indicated that they were undecided about Health Services and fifty-one (51%) percent were undecided about Health Service Facilities.

Satisfaction with Facilities



The majority of respondents thought the Cemetery Services (59%) and Facilities (57%) were satisfactory. Thirty-six (36%) percent were undecided about the Services and forty (40%) percent were undecided about the Facilities.

The satisfaction with Recreation Area was the lowest. Thirty-six (36%) percent of the respondents said the Recreation Area Service was satisfactory and thirty-three (33%) percent said the Recreation Area Facilities were satisfactory. Approximately another third indicated that the Service and Facilities were unsatisfactory. Another third were undecided.

To better understand the satisfaction responses with Recreation Area Service and Facilities, the responses were analyzed by the age, education and income of the respondents. Two significant differences in answers were found between satisfaction with Recreation Service and age and income. Younger respondents and respondents with less than \$30,000 income were less likely to be satisfied with Recreation Service than older respondents with higher incomes.

By the recoded age categories, there was a statistically significant difference (.02) in the responses for satisfaction with Service or Facilities.

1.15.1 Satisfaction with Recreation Service

Satisfaction with recreation service

<u>Age</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Undecided</u>	<u>Total</u>
40 and Younger	41%	38%	20%	100%
41-55	33%	36%	31%	100%
56 and Older	36%	25%	39%	100%

The difference by age is the result of the 40 year old and younger respondents being more likely not to be satisfied with Recreation Service (38%) as compared to the older respondents (25%) and less likely (20%) to be “Undecided” as compared to the older respondents (39%).

The second statistically significant difference (.03) in the responses was between satisfaction with Recreation Service and income.

Satisfaction with recreation service

<u>Income</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Undecided</u>	<u>Total</u>
Less than \$30,000	27%	42%	31%	100%
\$30,000-\$50,000	33%	38%	29%	100%
More than \$50,000	48%	20%	32%	100%

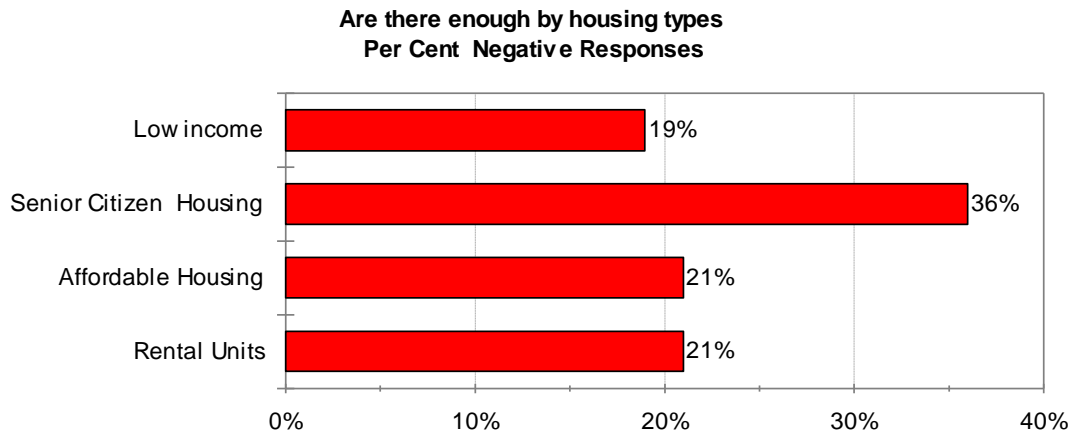
The respondents with less than \$30,000 income are less satisfied (27%) with Recreation Service than those respondents with more than \$50,000 income (48%).

No other statistical differences were found.

1.16 Housing Types

- **Respondents were asked if they thought there were enough rental units, affordable housing, senior citizen housing, and low income/subsidized housing. The largest majority of respondents were either undecided or thought there were enough. The one exception was the adequacy of senior citizen housing.**

Respondents (38%) indicated there was not enough senior citizen housing more than any other housing type. The older the respondent, the more likely they agreed that there were not enough.



Is there enough senior citizen housing?

<u>Age</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Undecided</u>	<u>Total</u>
40 and Younger	33%	24%	43%	100%
41-55	28%	35%	37%	100%
56 and Older	17%	42%	41%	100%

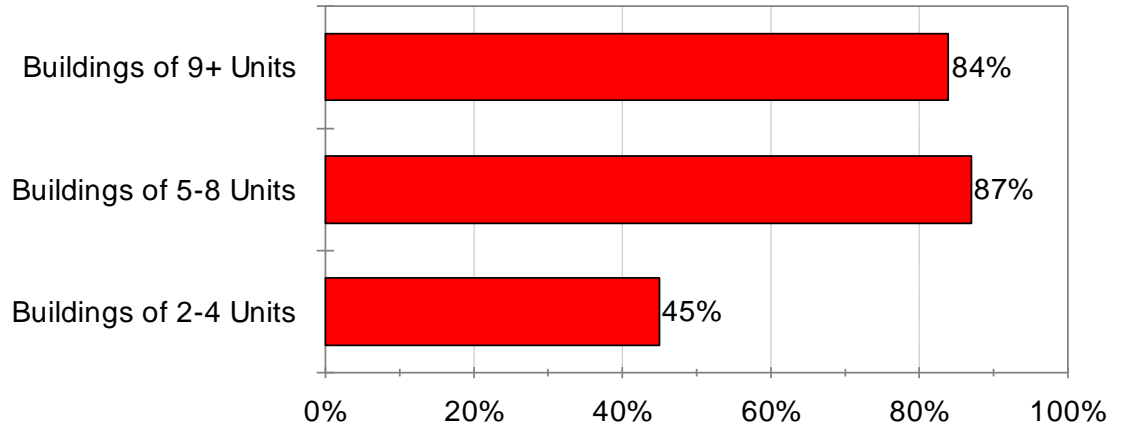
The younger respondents thought there was enough senior citizen housing; almost twice the percentage (33%) of older respondents (17%). Conversely, almost twice the percentage (42%) of older respondents thought there was not enough senior citizen housing as younger respondents (24%).

1.16.1 Multi-Family Housing

- **The respondents overwhelmingly thought New Hampton should not allow more multi-family housing (87%) with 5-8 units or multi-family housing with 9 or more units (84%).**

The responses were almost evenly split between multi-family housing with 2-4 units. Forty-three (43%) percent thought New Hampton should allow more multi-family housing with 2-4 units and forty-five (45%) percent thought New Hampton should not allow more units.

**Need for more Multi-Family housing
Per Cent Negative Responses**



The younger respondents were less likely to say, “yes” to more multi-family housing with 2-4 units than older respondents were.

**Should New Hampton allow more
2-4 multi-family units?**

<u>Age</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Undecided</u>	<u>Total</u>
40 and Younger	37%	57%	6%	100%
41-55	41%	48%	12%	100%
56 and Older	47%	36%	17%	100%

Thirty-seven (37%) percent of the respondents 40 years and younger said “yes”; forty-seven (47%) percent of the respondents 56 years and older said “yes”. This difference was statistically significant (.01)

There was no significant difference between the responses on multi-family units as a result of education or income.

1.16.2 Condos, Mobile Home Parks, New Apartments, and Converting Large Houses

- Respondents clearly indicated that they did not want to see any encouragement to build new condos or mobile home parks. Seventy (70%) percent of the respondents said “no” to new condos and eighty-one (81%) percent said “no” to new mobile home parks.

Sixty (60%) percent of the respondents said “no” to constructing new rental apartment buildings, but the responses varied significantly by age. Regardless of age, the construction of new rental apartments is not a popular idea, however the older respondents thought new rental apartments should be encouraged more than younger respondents.

Should the construction of new rental apartments be encouraged?

Age	Yes	No	Undecided	Total
40 and Younger	23%	75%	2%	100%
41-55	25%	64%	11%	100%
56 and Older	34%	50%	16%	100%

Twenty-three (23%) percent of the younger respondents indicated that the construction of new rental apartments should be encouraged and seventy-five (75%) percent indicated that it should not be encouraged. Thirty-four (34%) percent of the respondents over 56 years old indicated that it should be encouraged and fifty (50%) percent indicated that the construction should not be encouraged.

There was almost the same percentage of respondents who thought multi-family housing should be encouraged by converting large houses. Forty (40%) percent said “yes” and forty-nine (49%) percent said “no”. The respondents 40 years and younger were more likely to say “yes” to large house conversions than respondents over 40 years old.

Should multi-family housing be encouraged by converting large houses?

Age	Yes	No	Undecided	Total
40 and Younger	46%	52%	2%	100%
41-55	39%	53%	9%	100%
56 and Older	39%	43%	18%	100%

Forty-six (46%) percent of the respondents 40 years old and younger thought converting large houses to multi-family housing should be encouraged. Thirty-nine (39%) percent of the respondents 56 years old and older thought conversion should be encouraged.

1.16.3 Places for New Residential Building

Respondents were asked if new residential building should be encouraged in a variety of places. The responses varied.

In order of least popular to most popular place:

<u>Locations for New Residences</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Undecided</u>
In or near the village	35%	54%	11%
In strips along existing roads	39%	46%	15%
Distributed over more populated parts of town	34%	45%	20%
Distributed over less populated parts of town	49%	35%	16%
Clustered in new villages or new neighborhoods	49%	34%	18%

These responses did not differ significantly by age, education or income.

1.17 Preservation of Historical Aspects

- **The majority of the respondents are in favor of preserving the historic aspect of New Hampton.**

Respondents were asked if they favor preserving the historic aspect of New Hampton by a number of activities. A majority of respondents favored all activities. The results were as follows:

<u>Historic Preservation Activities</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Undecided</u>
Establishing consistent identifiers/markers for historical sites	83%	12%	5%
Identifying areas of significant historic interest	81%	13%	6%
Adding to the inventory of historic buildings	64%	22%	14%
Establishing historic districts	59%	26%	15%

The most popular way respondents thought New Hampton should preserve the historic aspect of New Hampton was by establishing consistent identifiers/markers for historical sites (83%), followed by identifying areas of significant historic interest (81%).

1.18 Town Involvement

- **The respondents also indicated that they support town involvement to preserve the historical, cultural, and natural**

resources of New Hampton. In response to a list of resources to preserve, the majority indicated they support the town involvement.

Do you support town involvement to preserve the following?

Preservation Type	Yes	No	Undecided
Areas of scenic or natural beauty	85%	9%	5%
Pemigewasset River	84%	12%	4%
Areas of important wildlife habitat	83%	13%	5%
Shorelines	80%	13%	5%
Historic buildings	76%	18%	6%
Wetlands	72%	19%	9%
Farmlands	67%	23%	10%
Working farms	66%	25%	10%

1.19 Recreational Opportunities

- **The respondents want improved picnic areas, hiking trails, town beach, cross-country ski trails, biking trails, and boat access to the river. The respondents do not want shooting ranges, downhill skiing, or hunting areas.**

When asked if the town should add, improve or allow a list of recreational opportunities, the positive responses in descending order were:

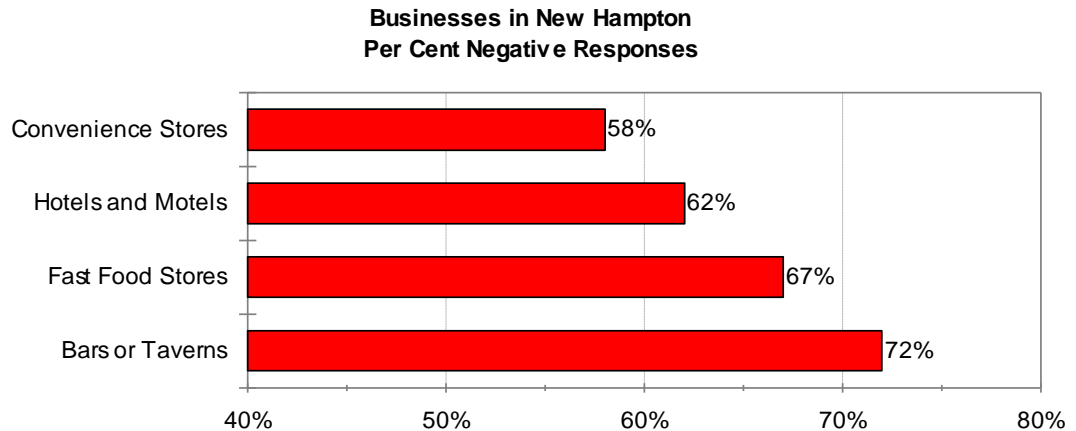
Recreational Type	Yes	No	Undecided
Picnic areas	76%	16%	8%
Hiking trails	76%	16%	8%
Town Beach	75%	17%	8%
Cross-country ski trails	71%	19%	10%
Biking trails	69%	22%	9%
Boat access to river	69%	24%	7%
Skating	61%	24%	16%
Community Building	53%	33%	14%
Horseback riding trails	52%	33%	15%
Game preserves	48%	39%	13%
Basketball	45%	34%	21%
Tennis Courts	2%	39%	19%
Snowmobile trails	41%	44%	14%
Indoor gym	39%	43%	18%
Swimming pool	36%	49%	15%
Hunting areas	29%	57%	14%
Downhill skiing	25%	59%	16%
Shooting range	23%	65%	12%

1.20 Business and Industrial Opportunities

- **The majority of respondents did not favor locating bars or taverns, fast food stores, hotels and motels, or convenience stores in New Hampton. The respondents did favor locating bed and breakfasts, small inns, banks, and restaurants in New Hampton. The responses were almost equally divided about locating supermarkets.**

The answers to the question regarding locating specific businesses indicated that the respondents do not want hotels and motels, bars or taverns, fast food stores and convenience stores in New Hampton. In order, their responses were:

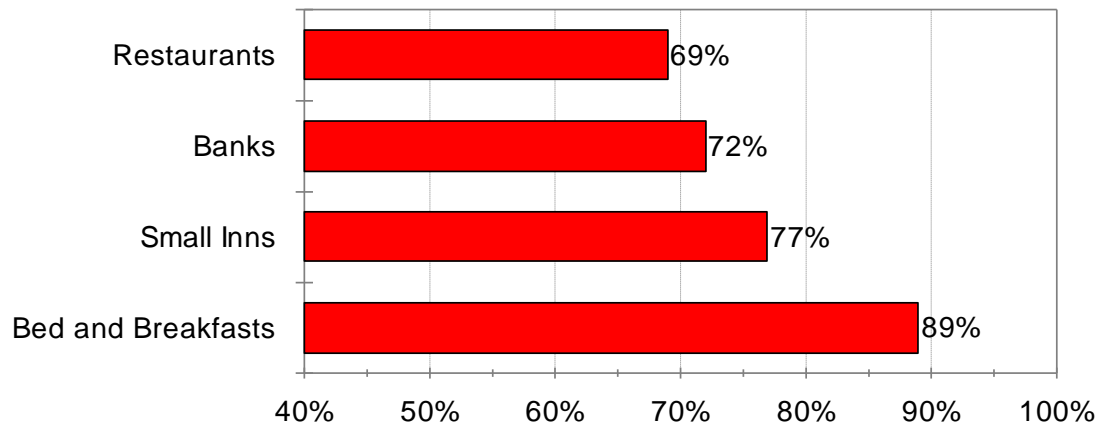
<u>Type of Business</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Undecided</u>
Bars or Taverns	72%	20%	8%
Fast Food Stores	67%	23%	10%
Hotels and Motels	62%	34%	5%
Convenience Stores	58%	33%	9%



The respondents were in favor of locating bed and breakfasts, small inns, banks, and restaurants. The responses in order of their favorable responses were:

Type of Business	Yes	No	Undecided
Bed and Breakfasts	89%	9%	2%
Small Inns	77%	19%	4%
Banks	72%	20%	8%
Restaurants	69%	24%	7%

**Businesses in New Hampton
Per Cent Positive Responses**



1.20.1 Supermarkets

Respondents were almost equally divided about locating supermarkets in New Hampton. Forty-four (44%) percent said they would favor supermarkets; forty-six (46%) percent indicated that they would not favor supermarkets in New Hampton. The younger respondents were less likely to want supermarkets, and the older respondents were more likely or were undecided.

Would you favor locating [supermarkets] in New Hampton?

Age	Yes	No	Undecided	Total
40 and Younger	39%	57%	4%	100%
41-55	45%	46%	9%	100%
56 and Older	46%	40%	14%	100%

Fifty-seven (57%) percent of the respondents 40 years old and younger said they did not favor supermarkets in New Hampton. Forty-six (46%) percent of the respondents 56 years old and older said they did favor supermarkets in New Hampton and fourteen (14%) percent were undecided.

The respondents with a high school education or less were more in favor of supermarkets than respondents with college experience.

Would you favor locating [supermarkets] in New Hampton?

Education	Yes	No	Undecided	Total
H.S. or less	50%	34%	16%	100%
2 Year College	45%	44%	11%	100%
4 Year College	36%	61%	3%	100%

Fifty (50%) percent of the respondents with a high school education or less favored locating supermarkets in New Hampton. Conversely, sixty-one (61%) percent of the respondents with a four year college education did not favor locating supermarkets in New Hampton.

No significant difference between favoring supermarkets and income was reported.

1.20.2 Business Complexes

- **When asked if New Hampton should encourage the development of various business enterprises, the respondents were not in favor of shopping centers (59%) and industrial complexes (51%). The respondents were in favor of encouraging the development of landscaped “buffer zones” around businesses (82%), home occupations (77%), and architectural control of new commercial buildings (73%). A majority of the respondents were also in favor of encouraging professional office parks (55%) and manufacturing businesses (52%).**

The younger respondents were less likely to favor the development of industrial complexes.

Should New Hampton encourage the development of industrial complexes?

Age	Yes	No	Undecided	Total
40 and Younger	28%	62%	10%	100%
41-55	39%	54%	7%	100%
56 and Older	48%	41%	11%	100%

Sixty-two (62%) percent of the respondents 40 years old and younger did not think New Hampton should encourage the development of industrial complexes. Forty-one (41%) percent of the respondents 56 years old and older did not think New Hampton should encourage the development.

Similarly, the younger respondents were less likely to favor the development of manufacturing businesses.

Should New Hampton encourage the development of manufacturing businesses?

Age	Yes	No	Undecided	Total
40 and Younger	41%	45%	14%	100%
41-55	50%	40%	10%	100%
56 and Older	59%	28%	12%	100%

Forty-one (41%) percent of the respondents 40 years old or younger thought New Hampton should encourage the development of manufacturing businesses; fifty-nine (59%) percent of the respondents 56 years old or older thought New Hampton should encourage the development.

Regardless of age, education or income category, the responses were almost evenly split between encouraging and not encouraging the development of wastewater treatment facilities. Thirty-nine (39%) percent of the respondents favored the development of wastewater treatment facilities and forty (40%) percent did not favor the development. An additional twenty-one (21%) percent was undecided. Finally, the respondents indicated that any new business development should occur on NH 104 (I-93 to Meredith) (65%) or on NH 132 toward Ashland (61%) rather than in New Hampton Village (16%) or on NH 132 toward Sanbornton (31%).

1.21 Expansion of Municipal Facilities

The respondents indicated that any needed expansion of municipal facilities should be located on NH 104 (I-93 to Meredith) (56%) or NH 104 toward Ashland (52%) as opposed to on NH 104 (I-93 to Bristol) (33%), on Town House Road (28%), or on NH 132 toward Sanbornton (25%).

1.21.1 School Facilities

- **Respondents were more in favor of building an addition to the existing school (58%) than they were in favor of constructing a new building (18%) or using temporary buildings (15%).**

Responses to establishing an 8th grade elementary school were evenly distributed. Approximately one-third (34%) were in favor of establishing an 8th grade elementary school, one-third (34%) were not in favor, and one-third (32%) were undecided.

Respondents over 56 years old were slightly less likely to be in favor establishing an 8th grade elementary school, but were more likely to be undecided than against it.

Should New Hampton establish an 8th grade elementary school?

Age	Yes	No	Undecided	Total
40 and Younger	39%	36%	25%	100%
41-55	37%	38%	25%	100%
56 and Older	30%	29%	41%	100%

Thirty-nine (39%) percent of the respondents 40 years old and younger were in favor of establishing an 8th grade elementary school. Thirty (30%) percent of the 56 year old and older respondents were in favor. Forty-one (41%) percent of the 56 year old and older respondents were undecided.

Chapter II. Population

The goal of the Population Section is to inform users of the Master Plan of the projected population growth possibilities in the Town of New Hampton. This chapter reflects the demographic status of the town of New Hampton through past, present and projected data.

2. Introduction

An analysis of changing trends in a town's population is one of the most fundamental aspects of a master planning effort. Any significant changes in the population of a town will consequently affect land use patterns, the town's economic base, and local demand for housing, transportation, human services and community facilities. Shifts in the composition of the population are important, since knowledge of changes in the school age, elderly and seasonal population is a prerequisite to providing for proper education, housing and the timing and tailoring of services for the future.

This chapter examines five facets of population change in New Hampton. First, historic population trends in New Hampton are summarized and contrasted with those of Belknap County and the State of New Hampshire as a whole; also, population projections through the year 2025 are shown. These projections indicate the degree of change to expect for the 19-year span from 2006 to 2025. Second, migration patterns affecting New Hampton population growth are analyzed. Third, selected characteristics of the population are examined (age, gender distributions and education). Fourth, the town's seasonal population and housing is described. The final section of this chapter contains the economic situation (income, types of employment and commuting patterns).

Information used in this chapter was derived from various sources which are noted where used. The Office of Energy and Planning and the Lakes Region Planning Commission developed population projections used in this report.

The U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic & Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census provided a report on the "1992 Census of Agriculture" Working Farms, issued April 1995. Unfortunately this census is listed by zip code and New Hampton, with its postal service provided by five different Post Offices, results in almost all of the working farms in New Hampton being listed in neighboring towns; e.g., Ashland, Bristol, Center Harbor, and Meredith. Therefore, a definitive count for New Hampton was not available.

2.1 Historical Population Trends

The Town of New Hampton was granted in 1775 and settled at about the same time. New Hampton was incorporated in 1777. The town was reduced in size when Center Harbor, which had been part of New Hampton, was incorporated as a separate town in 1797.

The population grew rapidly to 652 in 1790 and to 1,095 in 1800. This decade was the fastest rate of growth that the town has experienced. Population growth continued at a steady pace for the next 30 years, when it peaked in 1830 at 1,905 people. This trend was reversed for the next 100 years, as the town began a steady decline from 1,905 in 1830 to 1059 in 1880 to 692 in 1930. With the exception of a minor decline (68 people) in the 1940's, New Hampton's population increased steadily in the following decades to 946 in 1970. The 1970's brought the most recent growth spurt to New Hampton, when the population rose 32 percent to 1,249 in 1980; and from 1980 to 1990 the population increased 28.6% to 1,606. Between 1990 and 2000, the population increased 8.8% to 1,748. *Figures 2-1, 2-2, 2-3 and Tables 2-1, 2-2, 2-3 illustrate the historical, estimated and projected trends of New Hampton's population.*

Figure 2-1

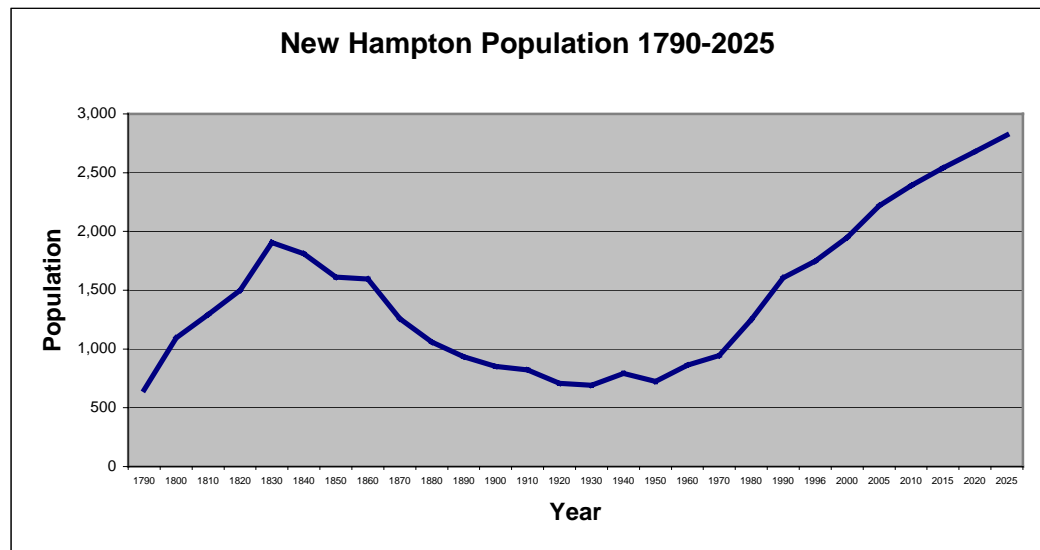


Figure 2-2 shows that New Hampton's population steadily declined as a percentage of Belknap County's population from a high of 10.7 percent in 1830 to a low of 2.7 percent in 1950. From 1920 to 2000, New Hampton's share of the county population was relatively stable,

ranging from 2.7 to 3.6 percent. The projected population as a share of the county population is projected to increase slightly to 3.7% in 2020 and 2025.

Figure 2-2

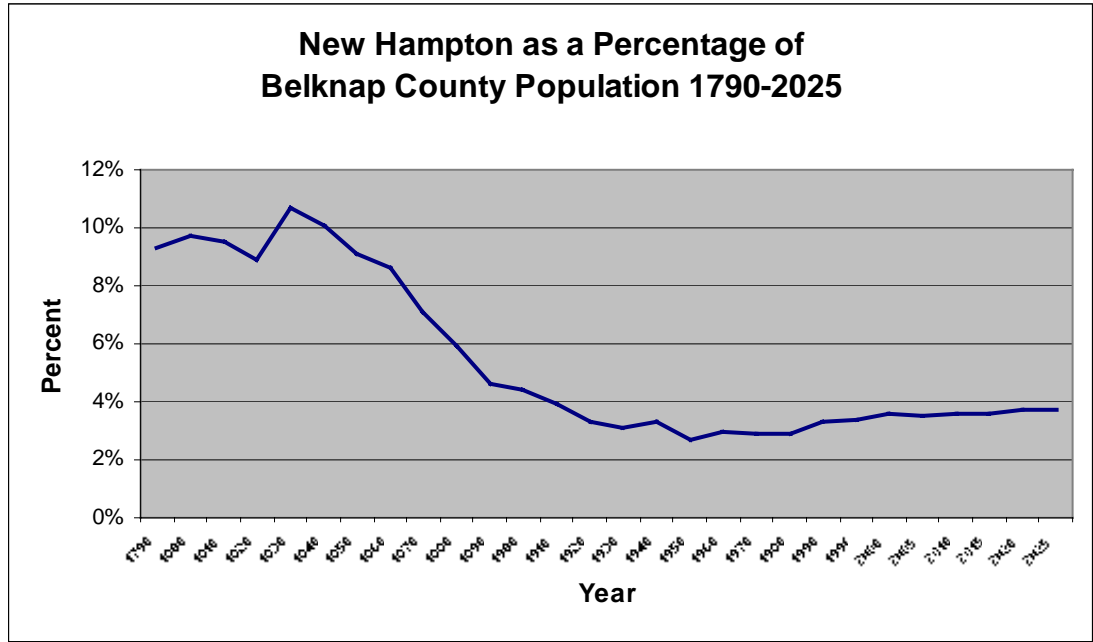


Figure 2-3

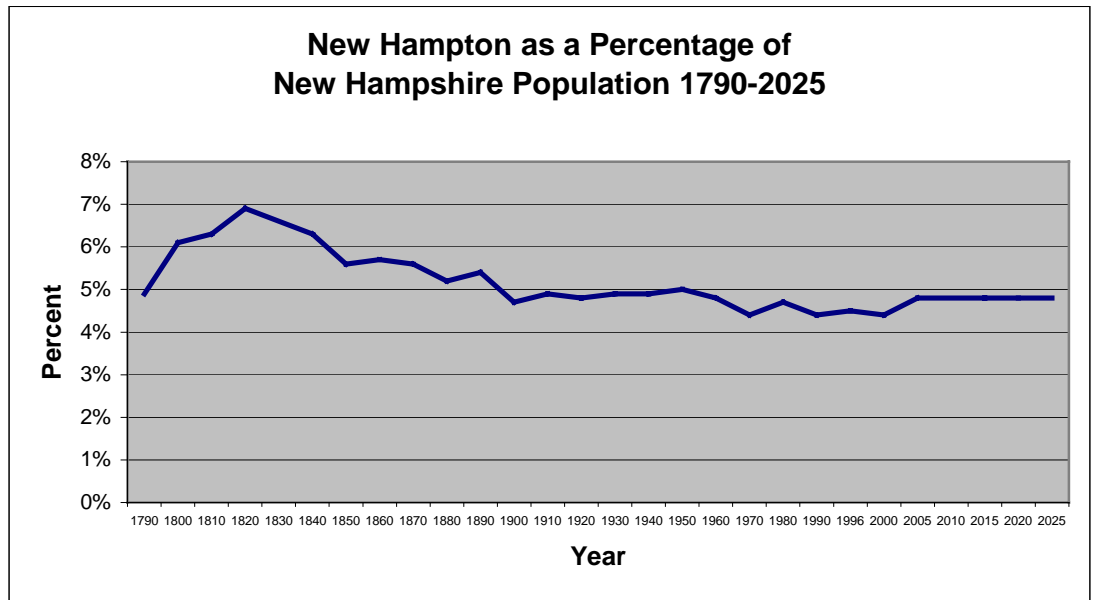


Figure 2-3 shows the relationship of New Hampton's population to New Hampshire's population. Note that the graph is similar to Figure 2-2 showing a peak in 1830, a decline from 1830 to 1930, and a relatively steady relationship from 1930 to 2000 and on.

Table 2-1

**Relative Shares of Population
New Hampton, Belknap County and New Hampshire, 1790-2025**

YEAR	New Hampton	New Hampton's Percent of Belknap Cty.	New Hampton's Percent of New Hampshire	Belknap County	State of New Hampshire	Belknap County's Percent of New Hampshire
1790	652	9.3%	0.46%	6,985	141,885	4.9%
1800	1,095	9.7%	0.60%	11,296	183,858	6.1%
1810	1,293	9.5%	0.60%	13,560	214,460	6.3%
1820	1,500	8.9%	0.61%	16,937	244,161	6.9%
1830	1,905	10.7%	0.71%	17,747	269,238	6.6%
1840	1,809	10.1%	0.64%	17,988	284,574	6.3%
1850	1,612	9.1%	0.51%	17,721	317,976	5.6%
1860	1,596	8.6%	0.49%	18,549	326,073	5.7%
1870	1,257	7.1%	0.39%	17,681	318,300	5.6%
1880	1,059	5.9%	0.31%	17,948	346,991	5.2%
1890	935	4.6%	0.25%	20,321	376,530	5.4%
1900	852	4.4%	0.21%	19,526	411,588	4.7%
1910	821	3.9%	0.19%	21,309	430,572	4.9%
1920	708	3.3%	0.16%	21,178	443,083	4.8%
1930	692	3.1%	0.15%	22,623	465,293	4.9%
1940	791	3.3%	0.16%	24,328	491,524	4.9%
1950	723	2.7%	0.14%	26,632	533,242	5.0%
1960	862	3.0%	0.14%	28,912	606,921	4.8%
1970	946	2.9%	0.13%	32,367	737,578	4.4%
1980	1,249	2.9%	0.14%	42,884	920,475	4.7%
1990	1,606	3.3%	0.14%	49,216	1,109,117	4.4%
1996	1,748	3.4%	0.15%	51,749	1,162,000	4.5%
2000	1,950	3.6%	0.16%	53,752	1,228,794	4.4%
2005	2,220	3.5%	0.17%	62,730	1,318,000	4.8%
2010	2,390	3.6%	0.17%	66,320	1,393,020	4.8%
2015	2,540	3.6%	0.17%	69,640	1,463,020	4.8%
2020	2,680	3.7%	0.18%	72,740	1,528,010	4.8%
2025	2,820	3.7%	0.18%	75,840	1,593,020	4.8%

Source: 1790-2000 U.S. Census
 1996 Population Estimates of New Hampshire Cities and Towns, N.H. OSP published 1997
 2000-2025 Population Projections, New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning published 2005

The rapid population growth experienced in New Hampton and the Lakes Region in recent years has resulted in a change in the appearance of the landscape as the town was developed. Table 2-3

shows that the average population density in New Hampton rose from 25 persons per square mile in 1970 to 43 in 1990 and to 52 in 2000. Although New Hampton remains among the lowest of the Lakes Region towns in population density, the number of persons per square mile has increased 106 percent from 1970 to 2000.

Table 2-2

**Historical Population Trends
New Hampton, Belknap County, and NH, 1773-2025**

Year	New Hampton	Percent Change	Belknap County	Percent Change	State of New Hampshire	Percent Change
1773	-	-	1,357	-	-	-
1775	-	-	1,745	28.6%	-	-
1783	-	-	3,346	91.7%	-	-
1786	-	-	3,887	16.2%	-	-
1790	652	-	6,985	79.7%	141,885	-
1800	1,095	67.9%	11,296	61.7%	183,858	3.0%
1810	1,293	18.1%	13,560	20.0%	214,460	16.6%
1820	1,500	16.0%	16,937	24.9%	244,161	13.8%
1830	1,905	27.0%	17,747	4.8%	269,238	10.3%
1840	1,809	-5.0%	17,988	1.4%	284,574	5.7%
1850	1,612	-10.9%	17,721	-1.5%	317,976	11.7%
1860	1,596	-1.0%	18,549	4.7%	326,073	2.5%
1870	1,257	-21.2%	17,681	-4.7%	318,300	-2.4%
1880	1,059	-15.8%	17,948	1.5%	346,991	9.0%
1890	935	-11.7%	20,321	13.2%	376,530	8.5%
1900	852	-8.9%	19,526	-3.9%	411,588	9.3%
1910	821	-3.6%	21,309	9.1%	430,572	4.6%
1920	708	-13.8%	21,178	-0.6%	443,083	2.9%
1930	692	-2.3%	22,623	6.8%	465,293	5.0%
1940	791	14.3%	24,328	7.5%	491,524	5.6%
1950	723	-8.6%	26,632	9.5%	533,242	8.5%
1960	862	19.2%	28,912	8.6%	606,921	13.8%
1970	946	9.7%	32,367	12.0%	737,578	21.5%
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2000	1,950	3.5%	53,752	3.9%	1,228,794	5.7%
2005	2,220	3.9%	62,730	4.4%	1,318,000	6.3%
2010	2,390	2.2%	66,320	2.5%	1,393,020	4.0%
2015	2,540	4.5%	69,640	5.1%	1,463,020	6.1%
2020	2,680	3.5%	72,740	4.0%	1,528,010	6.0%
2025	2,820	5.5%	75,840	4.3%	1,593,020	4.4%

Source: 1790-2000 U.S. Census
1996 Population Estimates of New Hampshire Cities and Towns, NH OSP published 1997
2000-2025 Population Projections, NH OSP published 2005

Table 2-3

**Population Density in Selected
Lakes Region Communities 1970-2025**

Town	Land Area	Number of Persons Per Square Mile						
	Square Miles	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020	2025
Center Harbor	11.3	47.8	71.5	88.1	88.1	106.2	117.7	123.9
Franklin	28.1	260.0	281.2	295.5	299.1	311.0	320.6	326.3
Gilford	38.3	84.0	126.4	153.2	177.6	218.3	245.7	259.0
Holderness	30.8	34.0	51.5	55.0	62.7	66.9	76.9	79.9
Laconia	20.3	733.4	767.2	775.5	808.4	836.5	845.8	849.8
Meredith	39.9	72.8	116.4	121.2	148.9	181.2	203.8	214.3
New Hampton	37.4	25.3	33.4	42.8	52.1	63.9	71.7	75.4
Sandwich	91.3	7.3	9.9	11.7	14.1	16.4	18.8	20.0
Wolfeboro	48.5	62.6	81.8	99.1	125.4	149.3	173.2	184.9

Source: 1970-2000 U.S. Census
2010-2025 Projected Population, N.H. Office of Energy and Planning Planning (January 2005)

2.2 Natural Increase and Migration

The two major determinates of population change are natural increase and migration. The excess births over the number of deaths in any one period are called natural increase. Migration refers to the number of people who have moved into and out of the town. The population of New Hampton at the close of a period is equal to its population at the start of a period, plus natural increases (the excess of births over deaths) during the period plus the net migration during the period.

Table 2-4

**Births, Deaths and Population Growth
New Hampton, 1970-2000**

Year	Births	Deaths	Natural +/-	Total Population
1970	17	5	12	946
1980	21	1	20	1,249
1990	23	10	13	1,606
1996	15	7	8	1,748
2000	17	11	6	1,950

Source: New Hampton Town Reports; US Census

Table 2-5

**Births, Deaths and Population Growth
New Hampton, 1970-2000**

Period	Natural Increase (births-deaths)	Population Change	Migration In
1970-1980	93 (170-77)	403 (1249-949)	310 (403-93)
1980-1990	93 (208-115)	357 (1606-1249)	264 (357-93)
1990-2000	138 (242-103)	344 (1950-1606)	206 (344-138)

Source: New Hampton Town Reports; NH Bureau of Health Statistics Data Management

As can be seen from *Table 2-4 and 2-5*, between 1970 and 1990, 75% of the population growth is attributed to migration into the town. Between 1990 and 2000, only 60% of the population growth is attributed to migration. Population increase from migration into a town generally occurs three ways: (1) by constructing new homes, (2) by increasing the number of housing units in existing structures, and (3) by converting seasonal homes to year round use.

2.3 Selected Population Characteristics

2.3.1 Age Distribution

The age composition of a community has great importance in planning for future needs. An increase in the school-age population, for example, indicates the need for greater investment in educational facilities. Likewise, growth in the elderly population requires a different range of services and facilities.

Table 2-6

Median Age: New Hampton, Belknap County and NH

	1970	1980	1990	2000
New Hampton	28.9	31.3	34.0	38.3
Belknap County	31.0	32.1	35.0	40.1
New Hampshire	28.0	30.1	32.8	37.1

Source: Lakes Region Demographic Profile, June 200- Page 9

Median ages have steadily increased since 1970 throughout much of the Lakes Region as well as the State of New Hampshire. The high median ages reflect the region’s popularity as a retirement destination as well as the aging of the population in both New Hampshire and the

United States. New Hampton's median age has increased 4.1 years between 1970 and 1990 from 28.9 in 1970 to 34.0 in 1990. Between 1990 and 2000, the median age increased 4.3 years to 38.3. New Hampton's median age is thus slightly younger than that of Belknap County and slightly older than that of New Hampshire.

Table 2-7

Grouping by Age & Sex (2000)

	Total	Male	Female
Under 5 years	112	52	60
5 to 19 years	450	234	216
20 to 64 years	1,147	567	580
65 years & over	241	116	125
Total	1,950	969	981

Source: U.S. Census

2.3.2 New Hampton Students Based on Average Daily Membership (ADM) Reports

Table 2-8

New Hampton Students Based on Average Daily Membership (ADM) Reports

Year	Pre-school	Kindergarten	Elementary (1-4)	Middle (5-8)	High (9-12)	Total
1990-91	3	-	103	82	55	243
1991-92	3	-	105	85	67	260
1992-93	3	-	91	97	72	263
1993-94	4	-	83	90	66	243
1994-95	3	-	86	98	72	259
1995-96	4	27	94	91	74	290
1996-97	6	14	94	99	80	293
1997-98	5	27	63	71	70	236
1998-99	5	15	123	63	93	299
1999-00	1	15	133	69	95	313
2000-01	1	8	147	61	85	302
2001-02	-	9	128	73	80	290
2002-03	1	7	132	75	72	287
2003-2004	2	11	129	83	78	303
2004-2005	1	22	123	84	97	327

Source: NH State Department of Education

2.3.3 Age Distribution (count of persons)

Table 2-9

Age Distribution

Year	1970	1980	1990	2000
Pre-School, <5 years	76	108	120	112
School Age (5-19)	300	295	305	450
Working Age (20-64)	471	703	1,003	1,147
Seniors (65 & over)	99	143	178	241
Total	946	1,249	1,606	1,950

Source: 1983 New Hampton Master Plan; U.S. Census

Table 2-10

2000 Ages of New Hampton School Children

Age	# of Children
Under 4	79
4 to 5	66
6 to 10	173
11 to 14	110
15 to 19	134

Source: U.S. Census

Table 2-11

New Hampton Resident Students NOT Attending Regional School System: (2005)

Home Schooling	14
Sant Bani	9
New Hampton School	10
Outside the District	4
Colleges/Universities*	26
Total	63
<small>* Data are from 2000 U.S. Census</small>	
<small>Source: SAU #4, Bristol, NH Office Fall 2005 and US Census 2000</small>	

Table 2-12

Local Resident Enrollment History at New Hampton School

Year	Enrollment	Year	Enrollment	Year	Enrollment
1983-84	11	1989-90	4	1995-96	4
1984-85	18	1990-91	10	1996-97	2
1985-86	16	1991-92	7	1997-98	7
1986-87	15	1992-93	10	2004-05	14
1987-88	15	1993-94	10	2005-06	16
1988-89	7	1994-95	5	2006-07	16

Source: New Hampton School Office

2.3.5 Kids Count

Table 2-13

**"Kids Count"
Town of New Hampton Compared with the State of NH**

	1980		1990		2000	
	Town	State	Town	State	Town	State
Total Population	1,249	921,614	1,606	1,109,252	1,950	1,228,794
Youth < 18 (% of total)	28.7	28	26.6	25.1	26.8	25.0
Med. Family Income	\$24,228	\$28,500	\$35,976	\$41,628	\$52,366	\$57,575
Persons in Poverty (% of total)	14.6	8.5	4	6.5	4.7	6.5
High School Graduates (% of total)	76.9	72.4	80.5	82.3	29.2	30.1

Sources: 2006 Kids Count Data Book; US Census Data 1980, 1990, 2000

Table 2-13 Notes:

- 1) Median family income reported in 1999 dollars.
- 2) High school graduates refers to adults 25 years and older.
- 3) Town of New Hampton:
*Students per teacher; 17 in 1986, 15 in 1993.
 Post high school education; 46% in 1989, 39% in 1992, 53% in 2000.
 High school completion; 75% in 1989, 83% in 1991, 90% in 2000.*

2.3.6 Educational Attainment for Persons 18 years or Older in New Hampton
2000

Table 2-14

**Educational Attainment for
Persons 18 Years or Older in New
Hampton 2000**

Education	# of Persons
<9th Grade	25
HS-No Diploma	156
HS- Graduate	373
Some College	268
Associate Degree	95
Bachelor Degree	212
Graduate or Prof. Degree	150
Total	1,279
Source: U.S. Census	

2.3.7 Age Distribution as a Percentage of Total Population

Table 2-15

**Age Distribution as a Percentage of Total
Population**

Age Group	Year		
	1980	1990	2000
Pre-School <5 years	8.6%	7.5%	5.7%
School Age (5-19)	23.6%	19.0%	23.1%
Working Age (20-64)	56.3%	62.4%	58.8%
Seniors (65 & Over)	11.5%	11.1%	12.4%
Source: U.S. Census			

2.3.8 Discussion of Age Distribution

Pre-School Population (under 5 years old.)

The pre-school population in New Hampton has steadily declined since 1980. In 1980 the percent pre-school population represented 8.6% of the population. In 2000, the pre-school population represented 5.7% of the population, or a decrease of 2.9%.

School Age Population

The school-age population in New Hampton decreased from 23.6% of the total population in 1980 to 19% in 1990. Between 1990 and 2000, the school-age population increased to 23.1%.

Working Age Group

The working age group (20-64) is often referred to as the labor force although not all persons in this age group are employed or looking for work. In New Hampton this group as a percentage of the total population has increased from 56.3% in 1980 to 62.4% in 1990. Between 1990 and 2000, the working age group as a percentage of the total population decreased to 58.8%.

Elderly Population

The elderly (senior citizen) population is comprised of persons 65 years of age and over. Although many people in this age group are retired, quite a few are employed full or part-time. There are almost always more women than men in this age group. In New Hampton this age group decreased only slightly as a percentage of the total population from 1980 to 1990. Between 1990 and 2000, the elderly population increased to 15.1% of the total population. Table 2-16 shows the elderly population as a percent of the total population for New Hampton, Belknap County and New Hampshire.

Table 2-16

Elderly Population as a Percent of Total Population for New Hampton, Belknap County and New Hampshire

Elderly Population as a Percent of Total Population for New Hampton, Belknap County and New Hampshire

	1980	1990	2000
New Hampton	11.5%	11.1%	12.4%
Belknap County	13.2%	13.7%	15.1%
New Hampshire	11.2%	11.3%	12.0%

Source: US Census

The population of the United States will show a relative increase in the 65-plus age group over the end of the 20th century and the beginning of the 21st century. New Hampton, Belknap County and New Hampshire will probably feel the effects of this population shift as well. Coupled with the in-migration of seasonal residents, most of whom will be retirees, it was expected that the elderly age group would increase as a percentage of the total population. However, while the number of

seniors increased in the Lakes Region between 1990 and 2000, and the actual percentage of the population older than 65 years actually declined in only one community. This indicates that the migration into the region is probably older than the migration out of the region.

2.4 Seasonal Population

The following is an extract from the 1983 Master Plan:

“The size of New Hampton’s seasonal population is largely determined by the number of seasonal homes in the community. The number of seasonal housing units has increased from 31 in 1944 to 133 in 1965 to 152 in 1970 to 161 in 1980. This reflects a large upswing in seasonal-home construction that occurred throughout the State during the 1960’s and early 1970’s. It should be noted that although the number of seasonal homes has increased by less than 20 in the last 20 years, it can be safely assumed that it is not the same housing stock. Typically, many seasonal units are converted to year-round housing as new seasonal homes are developed.

The precise number of seasonal residents in New Hampton is difficult to determine. The biggest problem is that many seasonal homes are used for different periods of time. With the winterization of many seasonal homes, many are used throughout the year, but by non-residents. In contrast, some “regular” residents (legally registered voters) are away much of the year – usually in the winter months. A further complication is that a “summer resident may rent his house to a “year-round” resident during the period he is away.

The number of seasonal residents obviously varies according to the month and the day. According to a statewide study of seasonal homes conducted in 1968, the average number of persons per seasonal household was 4.87. The study further established that each household had an average of 1.31 guests, for a total occupancy rate of 6.2. Multiplying the number of seasonal homes in 1980 (161) by this rate gives a 1980 seasonal population estimate of 998. However, it seems that the household size has probably declined since 1968. - - - -

In projecting the future seasonal population two assumptions have been made. First, the number of seasonal homes will be constant, with the number of conversions offsetting the number of new seasonal units. Secondly, the average size of families occupying seasonal houses will decrease as a reflection of national trends toward smaller family size. Carrying these assumptions through, Table 2-17 indicates that New Hampton’s seasonal population is projected to decrease by 64 persons over the period 1980 to 2000.

Table 2-17

Seasonal Population Projections 1980-2000

Year	Projected Number of Seasonal Housing Units	Projected Average Household Size	Projected Seasonal Population
1980	161	5.4	869
1985	161	5.3	853
1990	161	5.2	837
1995	161	5.1	821
2000	161	5	805

Source: 1983 New Hampton Master Plan, Page 1-12.

As stated above, it is expected that some of New Hampton's seasonal homes will be converted to year-round use. The conversion issue is important because (1) the town has no control over conversions; (2) since there are 161 seasonal homes, the town's population could increase by 36 percent without the construction of a single new home; (3) many seasonal homes have poor road access (especially for fire fighting equipment) and septic systems close to the lakes are inadequate for year-round use; and (4) the town's tax base would be changed since homes which once demanded services for only a portion of the year would demand town services (possibly including education) throughout the year.

Of the areas with large numbers of seasonal homes, it appears that the conversion of seasonal homes along the western side of Winona Lake and the northwestern half of Pemigewasset Lake may cause the most problems. According to the Lakes Region Planning Commission's Water Quality Management Plan, Winona Lake is already classified as a mesotrophic lake, which means that it is in an intermediate state between an oligotrophic (clean) and a eutrophic state. Excessive nutrient inputs from septic systems will speed up the eutrophication process." (End of quote from 1983 Master Plan.)

2.4.1 Housing Units Summary

Some of the town's population growth since around 1979 has occurred through the conversion of seasonal dwellings to year-round homes. This form of population growth is also occurring in many other Lakes Region communities between 1980 and 2000.

2.4.2 New Hampton Housing Trends

The source report provides housing supply data broken down into three types; single family, multi-family and manufactured housing with the following definitions:

Single Family

A one-unit structure detached from any other structure; that is, with open space on all four sides. Such structures are considered detached even if they have an adjoining shed or garage. A one family house which contains a business is a considered detached as long as the building has open space on all four sides. Mobile homes or trailers to which one or more permanent rooms have been added or built are also included.

Multi-Family

Includes row houses (sometimes called townhouses), double houses, or houses attached to non-residential structures, where each house is considered a separate, attached structure if the dividing or common wall goes from ground to roof. It also includes any structure containing two or more housing units. Units classified by the U.S. Census as "Single Family Attached" are also included in this category.

Manufactured Housing

Both occupied and vacant mobile homes to which no permanent rooms have been added are counted in this category. Mobile homes or trailers used only for business purposes or extra sleeping space and mobile homes or trailers for sale on a dealer's lot, at the factory or in storage are not included in the housing inventory. **Also:** Within this category are housing units classified as "other". These units are any living quarters occupied as a housing unit that does not fit the previous categories. Examples that fit this category are houseboats, railroad cars, campers and vans.

Table 2-18

New Hampton Housing Units

Year	Total Housing Units	Year Round Units	Seasonal Units
1980	622	476	146
1990	855	673	182
2000	944	764	180
In 2000, owners held 623 units, renters 100 units and 221 units were vacant (including seasonal).			
Source: U.S. Census			

Table 2-19

New Hampton Housing Trends

Category	1980	1990	2000
Owner Occupied		488	623
Renter Occupied		102	100
Vacant*		265	221
Year-Round	476	673	764
Seasonal	146	182	180
Single Family Owner		411	553
Single Family Renter		49	73
Single Family Vacant		210	205
Duplex Owner		8	5
Duplex Renter		10	12
Duplex Vacant		8	0
Multi Family Owner		0	0
Multi Family Renter		8	9
Multi Family Vacant		10	1
Manufactured Housing Owner		65	63
Manufactured Housing Renter		12	6
Manufactured Housing Vacant		34	10
Other owner Occupied		4	2
Other renter Occupied		23	0
Other Vacant		3	0
Median Value (\$) of Housing		\$103,900	\$107,800
Owner Occupied Homes:	*	*	
Number of Households	453	590	726
Persons in Households	1,242	1,606	1,947
Persons per Household	2.74	2.72	2.68
Age of Housing Stock:	*	*	
Built before 1950			256
Built Since 1950			138
Median Year Built		1967	1977
Homes without adequate plumbing facilities.	37	24	8

Source: U.S. Census

Table 2-20

Estimated Number of New Hampton Households by Structure Type 2004

Single family	Multi-family	Mobile Home	Total Households	Household Size
914	58	80	1,053	2.7

Source: New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning, December 2005

To the extent possible, the figures presented in the above table represent the total housing units. In prior years, the data represented

year-round housing units. This change was made because it has become impossible to distinguish between year-round and seasonal units. All units are included in the census and permit data. Some housing units have all the characteristics of year-round units, but are in fact used on a seasonal or leisure time basis. These units often are placed in the census category, "other vacant". This misclassification can be significant in communities with large amounts of frontage on water bodies.

Table 2-21

Current Estimates and Trends in New Hampshire Housing Supply extracted for New Hampton 2004

Category	2000 Census	Residential Permits, Net Change of Units					
		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	Total 2004
Single Family	810	21	13	25	24	23	916
Multi-Family	54	2	0	1	1	0	58
Manufactured	79	0	2	-1	-1	2	81
Total Housing	944	23	15	25	24	25	1,056

Source: New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning, December 2005 and New Hampton Records

Table 2-22

Building Permits Issued for New Dwelling Units in New Hampton

(Minus Demolitions for each Calendar Year)

Year	Single Family	Multi-Family	Mobile Home	Total Units
2000	21	2	0	23
2001	12	0	2	14
2002	25	1	0	26
2003	24	1	0	25
2004	23	0	2	25

Source: New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning, December 2005 and New Hampton Records

The problem of distinguishing between seasonal and year-round units also applies to permit data. Building permits usually do not request information regarding intended use. For this reason, all permits issued for new dwelling are included in *Table 2-22*.

2.5 New Hampton Economic Trends

2.5.1 Median Income Characteristics: 1989 and 1999

The U.S Census presents income data by family, household and per capita. Families are defined as consisting of a householder and one or more other persons living in the same household who are related by birth, marriage or adoption. In contrast, a household includes all persons who occupy a particular housing unit whether related or not. Median income figures for families and households consider the sum of income of all person's 15 years or older living in the housing unit. Per capita income also applies only to person's 15 years or older. *Table 2-23* presents the Median Income Characteristics for New Hampton for 1989 and 1999.

Table 2-23

***Median Income Characteristics New Hampton,
NH and Belknap County.***

	1989	1999		
	Family	Family	Household	PerCapita
New Hampton	\$35,976	\$52,366	\$47,583	\$20,336
Belknap County	\$36,260	\$50,510	\$43,605	\$22,758
New Hampshire	\$41,268	\$57,575	\$49,467	\$23,844

Sources: U.S. Census.

Notes:

The US Census asked questions regarding income of all persons 15 years or more. Problems with the reporting of the data were encountered because of under-reporting of income due to many persons forgetting to report minor or irregular income. It should also be noted that only wages are tabulated, thus many living on savings would be reported in the lowest income group.

2.5.2 Taxable Valuation per Person 1995 to 2004

Table 2-26

***New Hampton Taxable Valuation
per Person 1995 to 2004***

1995	2000	2004
\$54,345	\$62,789	\$101,233

Source: New Hampshire office of Energy and Planning, January 2006

2.5.3 Commercial Properties in New Hampton: 2005

There were 71-zoned commercial properties in New Hampton in 2005. In addition, there were 12 nonconforming commercial properties. Of the zones commercial properties, 33 were active businesses, 3 are manufacturers and 3 are gravel pits. There are 537.05 zoned commercial acres in New Hampton and 224.4 additional non-conforming commercial acres. The assessed land value of the zoned commercial properties was \$6,484,791 and buildings were assessed at \$5,890,850. In addition, the non-conforming commercial properties assessed land values were \$1,530,624 and the buildings were assessed at \$1,530,624. (Source: Town Office November 2005)

2.5.4 Commuting Patterns of New Hampton Residents: 1999

In 1999, 190 residents worked in town and 821 residents commuted to work out of town. 90.7% of these used a car, truck, or van to commute to work and 12.2% used a car pool. Numbers and commuting destinations were:

<i>Destination</i>	<i>Number of Commuters</i>
Laconia	136
Meredith	110
Tilton	84
Plymouth	72
Bristol	67
Concord	55
Ashland	36
Manchester	10

Derived from the 2000 U.S. Census, the data indicates that out of 509 persons who worked in New Hampton, 190 or 37% were town residents.

(Sources: U.S. Census)

Chapter III. Land Use

The goal of the Land Use Section is to provide a ready resource of existing and potential land use as tailored by the Community Survey results.

GOAL 3.1 Preserve the rural working landscape and protect prime agricultural lands.

This goal addresses those industries that historically have used the land. The intent is to find strategies that ensure sustainability and good management practices.

3.1.1 Recommendation: The Planning Board should prepare and present to the town an amendment to the Zoning Ordinances to add an Agricultural and Forestry Conservation Zoning District. This zoning district should encompass as much of the prime agricultural and forested area as is reasonably possible. The Master Plan Committee has included a recommended area on the Future Land Use Map (See Appendix). The land within this district would be reserved for agricultural and sustainable forest use with limited residential development to support the farms and forests. It is further recommended that the Agricultural and Forestry Conservation District land located on the Future Land Use Map (See Appendix) should be considered for large lot zoning or allowing residential dwellings by special exception only but never on Prime Agricultural land.

3.1.2 Recommendation: Selectmen appoint an Agricultural Lands and Industry Promotion and Protection Committee (ALIPPC) to research funding sources and zoning/planning techniques that will further protect New Hampton's agricultural and sylvan assets. The committee remains a "standing committee" for banking prime agricultural lands and for promoting strategies to assist farmers. The committee will meet with professional foresters to determine if there are planning and zoning initiatives that will ensure best management harvesting practices and long term protection of the timber resource. The committee shall make recommendations to the Board of Selectman and to the Planning Board. The application of Transferable Development Rights and other conservation techniques to this area is strongly recommended.

Goal 3.2 Ensure that the town retains the unique and historic rural character.

This is mainly a visual goal that demands a complicated process of determination of unique character and a process to provide protective scenarios.

3.2.1 Recommendation: The Planning Board should prepare a change to the Zoning Ordinance to create a Mixed-use Town Center Zoning District as shown on the Future Land Use Map (See Appendix). This district should be pedestrian friendly, mixed use, i.e. a mixture of small commercial establishments and residential units including multi-family, sustainable in water and wastewater, and with a limited access to major arterials.

This will promote new mixed income residences in town without significantly impacting any of the other goals. The result will be housing priced at what people working in New Hampton can afford. It would also ensure that the children born in town would not have to move from town once they become adults. This mixed-use area will encourage the development of small businesses, and it is important to place small business where they can prosper without negatively impacting similar or other uses. It is important that businesses be located near future and existing population areas and not impact traffic on the major highways. An example of negative impact would be creating a “miracle mile” atmosphere, which would not preserve the quality characteristics of New Hampton.

In order for this district to be realized, a different method of handling wastewater must be found. As previously recommended, the Town should investigate some of the state-of-the-art innovative systems that have become available during the past 5 to 10 years.

3.2.2 Recommendation: In order to protect the unique characteristics of New Hampton, the town should adopt Architectural Standards for the Business Commercial Districts and the new Mixed-use Town Center area. The Planning Board should select a subcommittee made up of townspeople and business owners to identify unique characteristics of the town and to develop a guideline document that could be presented to the Planning Board. This document could then be the basis for the development of the Architectural Standards implementation into the Zoning Ordiances.

Goal 3.3 Preserve important wildlife Habitat, scenic view areas, ridgelines, wetlands and water resources.

3.3.1 Recommendation: In order for valuable wildlife habitats to be protected, the Conservation Commission should consider working with the Department of Fish and Game to locate valuable habitats and add them to existing maps. This would enable the Planning Board to consider these habitats in future land use planning.

The best method for the protection of wildlife habitat, scenic view areas and ridgelines is to remove them from possible development. In order to do this equitably, the current owner of such lands needs to be reimbursed in some manner. Transferable Developments Rights and LCHIP are two methods that can be used for the reimbursement of the owner. It is recommended the Planning Board working jointly with the Conservation Commission to research funding sources and implement a conservation land-purchasing program.

3.3.2 Recommendation: The Planning Board or Board of Selectman should commission an inventory of all scenic views and vistas located in the Town of New Hampton. This inventory should be added to the Master Plan, and ordinances introduced that would protect these views and vistas from development that would have a negative impact, such as “cell towers, water towers, or high rise buildings”.

3.3.3 Recommendation: The Planning Board, working with the Conservation Commission, should develop zoning and planning amendments for aquifer protection and stream systems. All wetlands and stream systems should be labeled as Sensitive Areas and should receive special attention when their land use is being considered.

Chapter IV. Historical Resources

4. Introduction

History is a process. It is being made even as it is being written. History is more than the simple recalling of events. It summons new and varied interpretations as people seek to make sense of their current environment.

Historical interpretation can be used as a mirror to the future. The natural setting and human spirit that have been unique to New Hampton should be used as a guide for its future. The Town Plan is one method of helping to recognize and carry on the best and proudest traditions of the town. A plan for the future, however, without a look at the past, is incomplete.

The visual evidence of New Hampton's early character and appearance contributes greatly to the town's current appeal and character, adding personality and a real sense of place. An ongoing, active preservation effort demonstrates that the town has a sense of caring and pride. New residents perceive these values, assimilate them, and bond with their new community.

In New Hampton, the identification and conservation of the built environment can be used as an important community development instrument, especially in terms of evaluating future community planning and development proposals. The preservation of noteworthy architectural styles and historically significant buildings from New Hampton's proud past helps keep the town's rich heritage in clear view, as today's public officials and decision-makers confront a variety of planning and development challenges and opportunities.

4.1 The Historic Inventory

The New Hampton Historic Resources Inventory was limited primarily to properties of significance because of age or architectural style. This survey is a beginning. It sets the stage for a more complete inventory of New Hampton's numerous buildings of significant historic or architectural character, quality and importance.

Twenty-two (22) noteworthy structures were recorded on survey forms, identifying each by common and historic name, location, owner, use and basic description of the structure. Each building was numbered and photographed and descriptive information was

provided such as structure type, style, age, condition and other architectural and historical features of significance or interest.

Where interesting information of historical or architectural importance was known or available from existing records or “windshield” survey observation, this was incorporated to the extent feasible on the survey forms.

4.2 Techniques for Preservation

Preservation of old buildings and neighborhoods enriches inhabitants and visitors alike by affording them pleasant surroundings and, more importantly, by keeping them in touch with a part of their heritage. Along New Hampton roads there are many structures in varying stages of use and repair. These buildings can be repaired and restored and will continue their productive life for a long time to come. The goal is to preserve a bit of the past economically and to live in pleasant surroundings comfortably and safely.

There have been many successful projects involving historic preservation within New England and on the national level. Some examples include Portsmouth downtown and Strawberry Banke; Salem, Massachusetts, and Faneuil Hall Marketplace in Boston; Mount Vernon; the Paul Revere House; Portland, Maine Waterfront; and Charleston, South Carolina. The current trend applies the historic house concept to entire neighborhoods. Rather than preserve one old house, historic preservation is sometimes involved on a larger scale. For information about historic preservation generally, see RSA 227-C.

4.2.1 Historic Building Restoration – Tax Incentives

Some income-producing buildings may be eligible for a 20 percent investment tax credit for substantial rehabilitation, in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation.

For additional information about the National Register of Historic Places and tax incentives for rehabilitating historic buildings, contact the Division of Historical Resources, Department of Cultural Resources, 19 Pillsbury Street, PO Box 2043, Concord, NH 03302. Telephone (603) 271-6437.

4.2.2 National Register

The National Register of Historic Places is a list of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American

history, architecture, archaeology, engineering and culture on the local, state, or national level. National Register listing recognizes resources worthy of preservation but does not impose any restriction or limitation on the use of private or non-Federal property unless Federal funds or programs are involved. National Register properties are eligible to be considered for Federal matching grants-in-aid for protection, preservation, rehabilitation or reuse. In addition, National Register designation provides for review and amelioration of effects which any federally funded, licensed or assisted project might have on the property.

The National Register not only provides national recognition of local resources but also helps to develop an appreciation of these special resources by the town, and can foster similar preservation efforts in other parts of the community. Locally, the National Register program is administered by the Division of Historical Resources in partnership with the U.S. Department of Interior's National Park Service. The National Register is primarily a tool for identifying and planning the future of significant historic resources.

Anyone may nominate a district (or other property) to the National Register of Historic Places. The nomination of a property or district to the National Register of Historic Places begins with the preparation of National Register forms, maps, and photographs. The completed forms are reviewed by the state Division of Historical Resources Board. If approved by the Review Board, it is forwarded to the National Park Service in Washington for consideration and final approval. Upon approval by the National Park Service, the property is entered in the National Register of Historic Places.

The Lakes Region Planning Commission completed National Register nomination forms to successfully enter the New Hampton Community Church and the Dana Hill Meeting House in the National Register of Historic Places. (Complete nominations appear on the following pages.) The New Hampton Town House, the Gordon-Nash Library, and the Washington Mooney House have recently been added to the National Register of Historic Places.

4.2.3 Historic Districts

The term "historic district" can refer either to a locally designated historic district or to a National Register Historic District. Both are useful historic preservation mechanisms, but they are very different in the manner in which they are established and the protection they afford. Despite their different procedures and protections, an historic

area may be both a locally designated district and a National Register District.

These two types of historic districts, local and National Register, have the same general purposes to recognize and protect significant community resources, although they function in different ways. In many cases it may be most effective for a locally designated historic district also to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

An historic district is characterized by a more or less homogeneous grouping of structures and/or sites dating from the 18th, 19th, or 20th centuries, an area in which the character of the past is rather strongly asserted both in number of structures and in overall visual quality. These may include groups of related buildings and spaces that represent the standards and tastes of the community or neighborhood during one period of history, unrelated structures that represent a progression of various styles and functions, or cohesiveness that possesses an identity of place.

An historic district is a tool for local land use planning. The primary purpose for establishing historic districts is to protect areas of architectural or historic value from encroachment by inappropriate building forms or development patterns, which could adversely affect the area's character, and to establish regulations for its preservation and protection. Like all municipal activities, the authority to establish districts by cities, towns, and villages was granted by the State Legislature under RSA 674:45 and 674:46. An historic district may be an overlay zone; it may exist within any land use zone designated by a zoning ordinance (e.g., commercial, industrial, residential, agricultural, etc.), in which case it may impose more restrictions than the underlying zone regulations. Like the zoning that has now existed in New Hampton for many years, the establishment of an historic district and its regulations or restrictions is authorized at town meeting. Unlike conventional zoning, the administration of historic district regulations is by an historic district commission as authorized under RSA 674:46-A.

4.2.4 Commissions

The New Hampshire State Legislature has enabled the establishment of town commissions to preserve and protect areas of natural and historic significance.

The town may create an historic district commission and appoint the commission membership. The procedures provided for the

appointment of an historic district commission are found in RSA 673:4.

An historic district commission administers a particular **place** defined by the local legislation to be preserved for its cultural, social, economic, political, community and architectural history. The historic district commission may study areas for future historic districting consideration, and prepare an appropriate ordinance and regulations. However the foremost task of an historic district commission is to see that modifications to structures within its jurisdiction are compatible with the characteristics and design histories of each property and that design standards are consistently and equitably applied.

A heritage commission is a newer and different concept that was enabled by the Legislature in 1992 under RSA 673:4-A. It has broader responsibilities in recognizing, using and protecting the historical and cultural resources of a community, wherever they be in that community. The function is analogous to the Conservation Commission, which is established to advise, review and perform tasks for the protection of the natural environment. By contrast, the heritage commission's focus is on the cultural and man-made resources. Heritage commissions have two and possibly three general powers: to serve as an advisory and review authority; to oversee and administer property; and, if authorized at a town meeting, to assume the composition and duties of an historic district commission. Likewise, if an historic district commission exists, it may, if authorized by a town meeting, assume the composition and duties of a heritage commission.